

**December 23, 2013**

## **Two Lawyers Appointed as Superior Court Magistrate Judges**

A public defender and children's law attorney were recently appointed as magistrate judges in the District of Columbia Superior Court.

The court today announced the appointments of Renee Raymond and Sean Staples. They'll begin serving in January after finishing training.

Raymond joined the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia more than 20 years ago. She's currently a supervising attorney, and served as the organization's training director from 2006 to 2010. Raymond is also an adjunct professor at American University Washington College of Law.

Raymond's first assignment as a magistrate judge will be in the domestic violence unit, according to the court.

"I'm delighted to join the court," she said today.

Staples leads the guardian ad litem project at the Children's Law Center, where he's worked since 2006. Before joining the center, Staples was a supervising attorney and adjunct professor in the criminal division of the D.C. Law Students in Court program. He previously worked as a public defender in Fairfax, Va., and had a solo criminal defense practice. Staples clerked for Superior Court Judge Robert Morin.

Staples will initially serve in Family Court. He could not immediately be reached for comment.

In recent years, Staples has applied to be an associate judge in Superior Court. He was a finalist for retiring Judge Natalia Combs Greene's seat earlier this year, but wasn't selected by President Barack Obama as the nominee. Staples would still be eligible to apply as a magistrate judge.

Posted by Zoe Tillman on December 23, 2013